Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Persons with dwarfism contribute to the strength of the economy in South Dakota by being productive members of the workforce, representing many careers, and professions; and,

Whereas, There are over 30,000 persons with dwarfism in the United States, over 650,000 worldwide, occurring in approximately 1 out of every 15,000 to 40,000 births; and,

Whereas, An estimated 80 percent of persons with dwarfism have average height parents, siblings, and family members; and,

Whereas, There are over 200 different types of dwarfism or skeletal dysplasia, and the most common type of dwarfism being Achondroplasia, where the typical height range of persons with dwarfism is 2 feet 8 to 4 feet 5 inches; and,

Whereas, The preferred terminology for someone with dwarfism is "person of short stature", "having dwarfism", or "little person"; and,

Whereas, The medical prognosis for people with dwarfism varies from condition to condition and with the severity of that condition in each individual, the majority of persons with dwarfism enjoy average lifespans and reasonably good health; and,

Whereas, Persons with dwarfism are able to function as equally as average-height people, and capable of participating in sports, driving, traveling, having fulfilling careers, and families-requiring simple and reasonable accommodations:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 2015 as

DWARFISM AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fifteenth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Fifteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State